

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

MAY 88

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on May Show artists.

FULL NAME: *Robert Vergens* PRESENT POSITION *Prof. at Cleve Inst of Art*

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: *18-3-38 Cleveland, OH*

CATEGORY/PRIMARY MEDIA: *Painting*

ART TRAINING (Schools, Scholarships, etc.):

Yale - Cleveland Inst. of Art. Skowhegan. - all on scholarship

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN (include location and year):

'87 Butler Inst. Summer show. . group show '87 Carl Schowory Gal. (Cinn. OH)

COLLECTIONS THAT NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

AWARDS:

We would appreciate having a statement about your philosophy and work as an artist—either general or something specific about the piece(s) selected for this year's May Show to aid us in the preparation of gallery talks and in the release of publicity materials. For more space, use the back of this sheet.

Since college days my paintings have been a combination of realism and abstraction. For the most part the details and subject are representational while the organization is formalized to an extreme. In the case of the painting in this yrs show the subject is two windows with their colored frames open. One window is a

spring night wood the other is a sunny fall field.
During the past half dozen yrs repeated trips
to Japan to study their art (gardens and fabrics)
all, I feel, reflected on the new work. The
simple composition after the simplicity of zen
screens and the complexity of the representational
detailing inspired by the lush kimono fabrics -

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Robert Jergens

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 18 - 3 - 1938

PRIMARY MEDIA acrylic paint

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

(since the last bio sheet)

Kuban Gallery - one-mans show

Baldwin Wallace College - one-man show

Mansfield Art Center "Japonisme Ohio '84" - group show

Kidd Gallery (Birmingham, Mich) - Group show

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

AWARDS:

PRESENT POSITION:

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

MAY 82

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME:

Robt Jergens.

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:

18 III 1938 Cleveland Ohio

PRIMARY MEDIA

acrylic paint

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

Cleveland Inst of Art, Yale Univ.
Showalter School of Painting & Sculpt. scholarships
to all the above schools!

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Butler Inst. of Am. Art., CAA.

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

since last year
just private collections

AWARDS:

PRESENT POSITION:

Prof. at CAA.

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Robert Joseph Jergens

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 18 March 1938 Cleveland, Ohio

PRIMARY MEDIA paint

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.: Cleve. Inst. of Art (on scholarships), Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (on Sch.), Yale univ. (on sch.) with BFA & MFA, won a Prix de Rome for two years

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

1980 Beck Center, Bonfoey's Gallery, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Robert L. Kidd Gallery (Detroit), First Institute of Art and Design (Hong Kong, China), Mansfield Art Center, Rosemont College (Phil., Pa.), Woods Gallery (Phil., Pa.)
1981 Canton Art Institute, Lake Erie College, Cleveland May Show

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

1980 purchase of two drawings by the Brooklyn Museum of Art

AWARDS:

U.I.C.A. grant to produce a rug

PRESENT POSITION:

prof. of Art, Chm of Foundation Dept. CIA

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

MAY 80

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Robert Joseph Jergens

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: Cleveland, Ohio 18 March 1938

PRIMARY MEDIA acrylic on canvas

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.: please refer to previous bio lists

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

commission mural at cleveland public library
purchase of two drawing/paintings by brooklyn museum of art
these pieces included in exhibit of contemp. american drawings
exhibit at bonfoey on the square in cleveland
AWARDS: part of group exhibit at cleveland inst. of art

PRESENT POSITION:

professor Cleveland Institute of Art

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

JUN 21 1977

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Robert Joseph Jergens

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: Cleveland, Ohio

PRIMARY MEDIA painting

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

AWARDS: In addition to the things listed on the attached sheet I have exhibited drawings in shows in Florida, Texas, and Mass. This past year have lectured to a number of local groups (subject: the direction of contemporary art) been a judge for the national painting show held at Washington and Jefferson College (Pa.) And am included in a book, to be published in Poland

PRESENT POSITION: on contemporary artists of Polish decent.

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

ROBERT JERGENS

born: 18 III 1938, Cleveland, Ohio

education: the Cleveland Institute of Art, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Yale University School of Art and Architecture

exhibitions: B. Altman (NYC), Baldwin Wallace College (Berea, Ohio), Brooklyn Museum of Art (Brooklyn, NY), Cleveland Museum of Art (Cleveland, Ohio), Corcoran Gallery (Wash. D.C.), Denison University (Columbus, Ohio), Rose Fried Gallery (NYC), Let There Be Neon (NYC), Museum of Modern Art (NYC), Wheaton College (Norton, Mass.), Washington and Jefferson College (Pa.) plus regional exhibits and shows in local galleries.

awards: (other than prizes at exhibitions) American Academy in Rome prize for painting with second year renewal, Ranney Foundation grant (four years)

publications: inclusion in a book by Rudi Stern dealing with artists working with neon light.

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

► MAY 73

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Robert Joseph Jergens

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 18 March 1938 Cleveland, Ohio

PRIMARY MEDIA Noen light, pastel, acrilic

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.: Cleveland Institute of Art, Yale University (BFA,MFA degrees) all years at both schools on scholarship including four years at CIA on Ranny Scholarships. Also attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (with a grant).

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN: Group shows at: the Brooklyn Museum, Corcoran Gallery, Cleveland Museum of Art, Butler Institute of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, most recently the W&J National Painting Exhibition (purchase prize) in Washington, Penn.

One man shows: A.T.gallery (New Haven, Conn), Brecksville Gal. (Cleveland, Ohio),Denison University (Denison, Ohio), Rose Fried Gallery (New York City),Yale University (New Haven, Conn.)

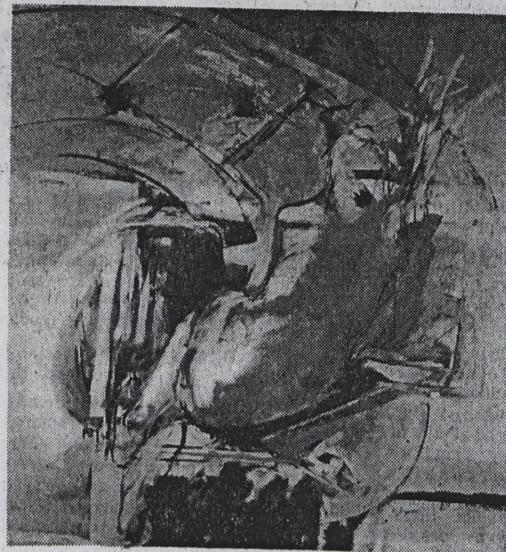
COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Cleveland Museum of Art, American Academy in Rome, Skowhegsn School, Washington and Jefferson College, and private collections

AWARDS: Rome Prize Fellowship with a years renewal and a number of awards in juried exhibitions

PRESENT POSITION: on the faculty of the Cleveland Institute of Art

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships. Thank you for your cooperation.



"BIRTH OF VENUS." This 44th May Show oil is by Robert Jergens.

Art Today

Look Closely to Find Images at May Show

By Paul B. Metzler

Searching patience and keen perception will reward May Show visitors with many unsuspected, hidden illusions and images in the painting display.

Some artists have cleverly concealed the human figure. In a passing glance some pictures appear as non-objective design patterns.

A count reveals 44 paintings with the human figure or recognizable motif. These include literal or semi-representational land scenes, portraits or still life content.

In 43 abstract paintings, artists began with a particular subject. By elimination, rejection and omission of unessential they arrived at an impression or summary statement.

There are 42 non-objective panels without reference to reality. Design, color arrangement, space and pattern assume priority. Some "action" examples are impulsive and express the emotional feelings of the artist.

"Birth of Venus" is a figurative oil. It is the artist's ideal symbol, not a vision of truth. The curved contour of the goddess is related by opposition to the sweeping green arc background. This directs the eye to the imaginary subject emerging from the circular sea shell. The lineal rhythm of Venus with her foreshortened members is illuminated from the left.

The grouping of related forms creates an overall design triangle.

The artist is Robert Jergens. From 10,000 entries, this painter and 73 other national artists were chosen for "The Figure" exhibition now at the New York Museum of Modern Art.

pared with French 19th century academic styles, sometimes called frozen tableaux.

The most pictorially real picture is by Elmer L. Novotny. It shows a facade of wooden store fronts in "Ouray, Colo." There is one pseudo-primitive with an identifiable two dimensional midway in "My Park."

There are multiple variations of these basic themes.

Between natural fidelity and the abstract may be found borderline transitory examples. "Painting No. 3" displays a porch table illuminated by sunlight filtering through tree and vine foliage. This Matisse-like color scheme is a moodscape that subordinates factual appearance for a pleasing design and depth in composition.

Another atmospheric oil is "On the Beach." The canvas unfortunately is divided by the lateral horizon too near the center of the panel. Pigment textures of light and dark areas motivate and accent vibratory contrast.

"Fallout Twist" makes me dizzy," one visitor said. "It hurts my eyes."

This canvas, in the hard finish style, shows two horizontal registers. Flat disks at the top have a red background, and the lower section is blue-green. Each circle is divided in progression to give a spinning, nervous sensation.

The painter was successful in devising a visual pattern of agitated motion and overall swirling revolution. It is somewhat like Italian Futurism and a variation of the action idea in "Nude Descending the Staircase" or "Dog on a Leash."

May Show sales have now reached \$22,228 for 288 objects out of 446 on exhibition. Since more than half of the work has been purchased a sell-out may be projected since the event continues through June 24.



THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Mr. Jergens

We are trying to build a biographical record of Cleveland Artists for reference. May we enlist your assistance with the following data?

FULL NAME:

Robert Joseph Jergens

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:

March 18, 1938 Cleveland, Ohio

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc: Cleveland Museum of Art (Sat. morning): Cleve. Inst. of Art (4 yrs. Honory and Ranny Schoiorships): Skowhegan School of Painting On a scholorship: Yale University on Honorary scholorship : American Academy in Rome EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN: Fellowship

MEDIA: Corcoran Biennial 1961 (Wash. D.C.): Park Synagogue Art Festival 1961: Jay Shows 1958-59-60: Butler Show: Cleveland May Show 1958-59-60+61: Cleveland Museum of Art Traveling Show 1961: Karamu three man show 1959: Polomaise Show from 1955 to 1960:

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Newman Club (Cleveland); Cleveland Museum of Art (Inca Mural); Skowhegan School of Painting; Yale University; Mr. John Hageman, Mount Vernon N.Y.; Mr. John Cutler, New Haven: and other private collections.

AWARDS:

Besides the scholorships mentioned above-

Henry G. Keller Drawing Award 1960

Prix de Rome 1961

Jack Johnson Print Award 1960

Mary C. Page \$1,000 Grant 1960

PRESENT POSITION:

In RomeAddress ; Via Angelo Masina 5, Rome 28, Italy.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would inform us of subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ann Tzeitochow
Assistant Curator of Paintings

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

APR 27 1978

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME:

Robert Joseph Jergens

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:

18 III 1938 Cleveland, Ohio

PRIMARY MEDIA

acrylic -

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

Recent

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Toronto/Cleveland Exchange.
Butler Museum group show (Sum. of 77)

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

AWARDS:

Will compet. at Cleve. Public Library. to do.
a 20 x 25 foot painting in main reading room.

PRESENT POSITION:

Assoc. Prof. at Cleve. Inst. of Art.

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

Robert Jergens
5356 Regency Dr.
Parma, Ohio 44129

NOV 6 1990

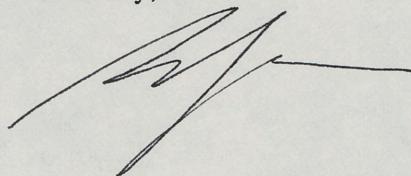
6 November 1990

Tom Hinson, Curator of Contemporary Art
The Cleveland Museum of Art
11150 East Boulevard
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Tom;

Enclosed are the slides and related material you requested. I hope they are sufficient. Along with the slides of paintings are three slides of sketches. These are often related pieces that build to a larger painting.

Sincerely,



OCT 25 1990

Robert Jergens
5356 Regency Dr.
Parma, Ohio 44129

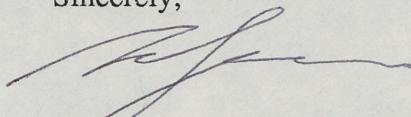
24 October 1990

Tom Hinson, Curator of Contemporary Art
The Cleveland Museum of Art
11150 East Boulevard
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Tom;

Thank you for your interest. Since I am at the Institute only a couple days a week, I just picked up your letter. This weekend I plan to photograph some recent work and will get slides to you as soon as I can.

Sincerely,



Telephone, 888 5792
or write to my home
address.

All paintings are acrylic on wood. Height precedes width. In listing the titles, W.V. stands for the series WINDOW VARIATIONS. In the plastic holder the slides are identified from top to bottom, left column to right column.

TITLE	SIZE
W.V.: View from the Second Floor detail of W.V.: View from the Second Floor	56 x 88
W.V.: Fall and Winter detail of W.V.: Fall and Winter	66 x 48
W.V.: Dark Garden with Red	95 x 48
W.V.: Sunset detail of W.V.: Sunset	24 x 53
W.V.: Far and Near W.V.: Frame detail of W.V.: Frame	31 x 48 84 x 48
W.V.: First Snow W.V.: Penetrating Landscape 2 detail of W.V.: Penetrating Landscape 2	68 x 42 48 x 57
W.V.: Penetrating Landscape Small Window at the End of the Hall	40 x 80 48 x 117
Richards's Window W.V.: Penetrating Landscape (study)	32 x 23 4 x 18
W.V.: French Doors W.V.: Green Field (study)	91 x 93 14 x 11
W.V.: Four Seasons (study)	12 x 45

BORN

Cleveland, Ohio

EDUCATION

Cleveland Institute of Art, diploma 1960
Yale University, BFA 1961, MFA 1964

SELECTED HONORS

American Academy in Rome Painting Fellowship 1961, renewal 1962,
Ranney Foundation Grant 1970-72, Lilly Foundation Grant for Computer
Art, 1989

COLLECTIONS

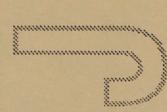
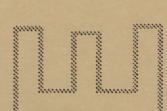
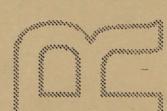
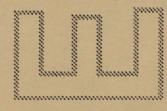
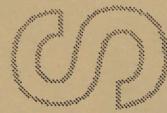
AmeriTrust, BP America, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Cleveland Museum of
Art, Jones Day Reavis and Pogue, National City Bank of Cleveland,
Woodhawk Estates, Yale University. Plus private collections.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

B. Altman's (N. Y.), The Farwick Gallery at Baldwin-Wallace College (OH),
Beck Center (OH), Mary Bell Gallery (Chicago, IL), The Bonfoey Gallery
(OH), The Butler Institute of American Art (OH), Brooklyn Museum of Art
(NY), Canton Art Institute (OH), Carl Solway Gallery (OH), Cleveland
Institute of Art (OH), Cleveland Museum of Art (OH), Contemporary Art
Center in Cincinnati (OH), Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington DC), Rose
Fried Gallery (NY), Great Northern Corporate Center (OH), Robert Kidd
Gallery (MI), Mansfield Art Institute (OH), Makler Gallery (PA), Museum of
Modern Art (NY), Smith Gallery at Lakeland Community College (OH),
Spaces Gallery (OH), Wasmer Gallery at Ursuline College (OH), Walker
Gallery (Chicago, IL), Yale University Art Gallery (CT).

Locations underlined indicate one-man shows.

5556 Regency Drive, Parma, Ohio 44129, telephone 216 888 5792



Notes about my paintings:

While occupied with the craft and subject, I hope beauty and poetry enters the work.

The subject is the window, open. Instead of painting the surrounding walls or window frames I use the shaped painting as a shaped viewfinder for a landscape. Initially based on direct experience, the scene is ordered and stylized to present a universal image.

The play of dualities and changes in reading motivates me. The paintings are flat but their shape suggests a breaking away from the wall. Close up is a tangle of close-value vegetation, yet at a distance it reads as textured color. Tension produced by the shaped canvas is both abstract and literal (window) at once. In front of the actual piece this tension becomes animation.